

seen a rapid expansion in skills-based education like on-the-job learning, earn-while-you-learn programs, and apprenticeships.

Workforce development programs are successful only if they are adaptable to the changing needs of employers. The notice of proposed rulemaking by the Department of Labor issued this past June recognizes this through the proposed establishment of industry-recognized apprenticeships programs, or IRAPS. IRAPS cut through the bureaucratic red tape to put businesses and employees at the center of the conversation.

The proposed flexibility in the notice of proposed rulemaking will allow businesses the ability to quickly meet labor market needs. These changes will help foster continued innovation that recognizes the dignity of all work and provides another tool for apprentices to move into meaningful work in the rapidly evolving 21st century economy.

We can ensure IRAPS create as many career opportunities as possible by encouraging employer innovation and allowing students and families the freedom to choose the path that is best for them. That is the power of work. That is the power of CTE. And that is the power of apprenticeships, putting employers and students in the driver's seat of their own professional futures.

CONGRATULATING STEVE JOHNSON ON RECEIVING IMTA'S FOUNDERS AWARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Steve Johnson, for receiving the prestigious Indiana Motor Truck Association's Founders Award.

The IMTA's Founders Award is an honor bestowed to those who embody the spirit of the association's founders and have made outstanding contributions to the association and the Indiana trucking industry. Steve is only the ninth individual to have received this award in the past 14 years.

Always one to give back, Steve proudly serves his Nation in uniform and remains involved in his local church, charitable foundations, and children's hospitals in Indiana.

I congratulate my good friend, Steve Johnson.

CONGRATULATING THREE HIGH SCHOOLS ON SPECIAL OLYMPICS RECOGNITION

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate three high schools located in Indiana's Sixth District on their achievement of becoming a National Banner Unified Champion School.

Columbus East High School, Muncie Central High School, and South Ripley High School were recognized by the Special Olympics for their servant hearts and commitments to inclusion. These three high schools achieved the status of a Unified Champion School after meeting 10 national standards of excellence set by the Special Olympics.

As institutions dedicated to inclusion, collaboration, and engagement, we are proud of Columbus East, Muncie Central, and South Ripley. We congratulate the students and faculty for this significant achievement.

RECOGNIZING BATESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AND IVY TECH'S PARTNERSHIP

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Batesville High School for their tremendous achievement of having one-half of the 2020 graduating class earn college credits. Through their innovative programs with Ivy Tech Community College, Batesville will see 50 percent of their graduating seniors walk across the stage with an entire year's worth of college credits.

The Ivy Tech program gives Hoosiers the opportunity to take 16 college courses at no cost, enabling them to obtain a bachelor's degree in just 3 years after they go to college.

I thank Batesville High School faculty and staff for continuing to provide innovative educational programs that set our students up for success.

RECOGNIZING RUSHVILLE CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL FFA PROGRAM

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Rushville Future Farmers of America chapter for being one of six chapters across the country to participate in the Turn the Bag Blue and Gold program.

The Turn the Bag Blue and Gold program is a partnership between FFA and Mycogen Seeds that gives students the opportunity to visit with farmers and polish their professional skills while raising money for their communities. This program will allow students to sell directly to local farmers, providing industry experience and a wonderful educational opportunity. A percentage of these sales will go directly to the Rushville FFA chapter.

Congratulations to Rushville FFA.

CONGRATULATING INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Indiana National Guard for the stationing of the 127th Cyber Protection Battalion at Muscatatuck. As the seventh largest Army National Guard contingent in the Nation, the Indiana National Guard continues to make our Nation's defenses better.

The Hoosier State is proud to be home to cyber force structures such as the Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex, the Defensive Cyber Operations Element, and Cyber Protection Team 172. We are honored to have such a distinctive battalion.

Indiana's Sixth District boasts the Department of Defense's only live, full-scale cyber range, and I join the Army National Guard in congratulating our distinguished Hoosiers in uniform on this outstanding achievement.

CONGRATULATING BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA VOLUNTEER BETH CURTISS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Beth Curtiss of Shelbyville, Indiana. Beth was awarded the 2019 Crossroads of America Silver Beaver Award, in association with the Boy

Scouts of America. This award is the highest honor the Crossroads of America Council may bestow on a volunteer.

Beth has volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America for over 15 years. This is the fifth time Beth has been recognized for her outstanding service.

I am pleased to congratulate Beth, and I thank her for investing in our communities.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Ms. Verna Teller, Southern Tiwa, Pueblo of Isleta, New Mexico, offered the following prayer:

O, Creator and Great Mother, having asked and received Your permission to invoke Your blessings today to all directions—to the east, north, west, south, and the center—we thank You for the life You give to all Your children: the two-legged ones, the four-legged, those who live in the waters, and those who watch over us from the skies above.

Sacred pollen, sacred Earth Mother, sacred water that manifest Your desires, O Creator and Great Mother, we thank them for the nourishment they give us equally, with no regard to race, color, or creed.

Creator and Great Mother, bless those standing before You who carry a sacred trust to all of us who inhabit Turtle Island, our homeland. And I pray today that You will give them the wisdom and the courage to carry out their sacred trust with the same equality that we receive from the Sun and rain.

"Hurrd kem," thank you.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. PETERS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PETERS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows: